

# MUNICIPAL BARNs in MASSACHUSETTS

A. Forbes, 2/25/13

## **Acton: Forbes-Morrison Barn**

1932-33

Acquired: 1997

Setting: part of farmstead on 32.5 acres of former pastures and woodland, adjacent to 17-acre pond

Use: municipal and cemetery storage

## **Agawam: School Street Barn**

late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century

Acquired: 2002 when creating 49-acre School Street Park

Setting: 49 acres

Former use: farming; farm barn of county jail

## **Boxborough: Steele Farm Barn**

1941; 36 x 42'; built as an apple barn

Acquired: 1994

Setting: part of farmstead on 36 acres of land for passive recreation

Use: farm and municipal storage

## **East Bridgewater: Sachem Rock Farm Barn**

1870s, with attached 1880s  
wagon/carriagehouse

Acquired: 1998

Setting: 32 acres of farmland on Satucket River, with 1927 house; hay fields leased to farmers

Use: Plans underway to adapt house and barns for a community center under Council on Aging

## **Greenfield: Greenfield Town Farm Barns**

19<sup>th</sup> Century + early 20<sup>th</sup> C.

Setting: On former Greenfield Town Farm; land now under APR; most leased for farming

Farmstead with main barn with a connected secondary barn, & a free-standing horse barn

Use: Miscellaneous town storage by DPW, etc.

## **Groton: Williams Barn**

ca. 1840

Acquired: c. 2002

Setting: Conservation & agricultural land

Use: Agricultural museum; adapted for events & programming including farmers market

## **Lincoln: Codman Farm barns**

19<sup>th</sup> century outbuildings

Acquired: 1973

Setting: large acreage in the heart of Lincoln

Uses: Multiple outbuildings—some for farm use and livestock; large 19<sup>th</sup>-century barn adapted for public use as a function hall.

## **North Attleborough: Codding Farm Barn**

1918, 40 x 30' with cow shed wing

Acquired: 2001

Setting: 58 acres—largest open parcel close to center of town; with 1833 house and sheds

Use: currently vacant

## **Winchester: Hamilton Barn**

1827, with large 19<sup>th</sup>-C. squash house

Acquired: 2007

Setting: Wright-Locke Farm (agriculture, nature trails, etc.)

## **Worcester: "Great" Barn in Hope Cemetery**

1882

Use: Miscellaneous cemetery use

Funding: Received grant from National Trust for rehab. & stabilization 2008

This list includes only municipally-owned barns. Many more barns accessible to the public are owned by the state through the Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, by local historical societies and conservation trusts, and by larger non-profits including the Sudbury Valley Trustees and the Trustees of Reservations.

Mass. Audubon Society owns barns on several of their sanctuaries. At Wachusett Meadow in Princeton, they maintain three—a 32 x 60' 19<sup>th</sup>-century barn used for storage and livestock, an 80' 1925 cow barn adapted for exhibits and classes, and a small former slaughterhouse rehabbed for classrooms and workshops.